

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1 - 4. (canceled).

5. (previously presented): A computer-implemented method for directing a database server to selectively release database system resources associated with a database system operatively coupled with the database server, the database server accessible by applications, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving an online protocol indicator from an application, wherein the online protocol indicator comprises the step of adding a pre-defined keyword to a database statement included in a request sent by the application to the database server,

returning a defined error condition indicator to the application when the application has forwarded the online protocol indicator and when identified system resources are determined to be scarce, and

receiving a commit statement from the application when a response from the database server is determined to comprise the defined error condition indicator.

6. (canceled).

7 - 10. (canceled).

11. (previously presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 5, wherein the defined error condition indicator is returned to the application if at least one of a lock list and an active log space is full.

12. (previously presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 11, wherein the database server interrogates the active log to determine if the active log is full.

13. (previously presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 11, wherein the database server interrogates the lock list to determine if the lock list is full.

14. (previously presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 5, wherein the application issues the commit at any time without changing a logic of the application while the application has forwarded the online protocol indicator.

15. (previously presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 5, wherein the request sent by the application to the data base server is one of a statement level and application level flag specification.

16. (previously presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 15, wherein the request includes executing a one time request against the database server if the request is the application level flag specification.

17. (previously presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 15, wherein the request includes preparing a specified online keyword with every SQL statement if the request is the statement level flag specification.